

WEEB Education Committee Agenda

Tuesday, Dec 16, 9:00-3:00

WCEE Conference Room, Stevens Point

I. WEEB Education Committee Member Attendance:

Kim Lemberger, Betsy Parker, Jeremy Solin, Darlene Arneson, Kathy, Kruthoff, Gretchen Marshall

Not in attendance: Carrie Morgan, Pat Arndt, Cheryl Todea, Maria Pichette, Melissa Rickert

No Longer Participating: Tessa Jilot (DNR), Lis Olson (DNR) and Janice Zmrazek (DPI)

II. WEEB

The board prioritized two of the goals from the EE 2010 document for us to pursue at their annual meeting in July:

Goal 111.1 - Create and support professional development programs that lead to consistent career preparation (pre-service) and leadership building efforts (inservice) for PreK-12 educators.

Goal V.4 - Encourage businesses and industries to be directly involved in statewide EE efforts.

III. K-12 Subcommittee Report

Members: **Kim Lemberger**, Darlene Arneson, Melissa Rickert, Kathy Kruthoff, Gretchen Marshall, Carrie Morgan

Discussion: We will no longer be pursuing the goal of working on the Green and Healthy Schools Program, as the DNR will be organizing a committee of partners to do this. This was discussed at the WEEB meeting in October. Some other ideas we discussed pursuing were:

- Raising K-12 teacher's awareness to the other EE resources available,
- Determining the need for a comprehensive design of EE curriculum in the state, (What is the status of the state EE standards? How can we get this information to district curriculum directors? How are the green charter schools handling it?)
- Developing a mentor program targeting people who have their Master's Degree in EE to be a liaison for distributing information and possibly providing professional development for teachers in their district/building

**There currently isn't a representative on the K-12 Education Committee from the DPI. Should someone from that department be involved with what we want to accomplish?

Grant Plans: Create a 2-day workshop to be held in August 2009 to develop leadership in EE for teachers in their building/district. The focus of the workshop will be on raising awareness to the many EE curriculum resources available throughout the state and helping participants develop a plan of implementing EE into their district's curriculum. One graduate credit will be offered for attending the workshop in August. A second graduate credit will be offered in January 2010 for participants to come back and share their progress/success/roadblocks. This will be open to 15 people as a pilot project. The K-12 Education Committee will evaluate the effectiveness of the workshop to see if can be offered to a broader audience through the many summer academies that will be held in 2010.

Action: Jeremy will check into having WCEE submit the grant proposal for this.

IV. Higher Education Subcommittee Report

Members: **Jeremy Solin**, Pat Marinac, Cheryl Todea, Pat Arndt, Scott Ashmann (UW-Green Bay), Jennie Lane, Janet Hutchins, Dennis Yockers, Bill MacBeth (UW-Plattville), Mary-Beth Peetish (UW-O), David Barnell

Discussion: **The committee met on November 25th via conference call.**

Scott Ashmann is conducting a study of what is currently being done in the state with preservice EE. The results of this study will be available in 2009. There was also a discussion about campus sustainability, with the goal to help foster environmentally literate graduates (not just teachers), by creating a network within the state to integrate EE into all content areas taught at the higher education level. Three priorities were established:

- Work to create a state network of higher education institutions to share information about what's happening and needs. AASHE might be able to provide some structure/support.**
 - Expand the AASHE faculty sustainability workshop model to other institutions.**
 - Develop greater capacity for student action projects at higher ed institutions. Specific actions could include case studies, workshops for faculty and staff on conducting action projects, assistance with organizing projects, etc.**
- 1) There currently isn't a representative on this committee from the technical college population.**

Grant Plans: **Pursue funding to support a pilot sustainability workshop for faculty.**

Action: **Jeremy will see if the people from UW-Oshkosh would be interested in submitting this proposal as they already have some experience with this.**

V. Lunch was held from 11:30-12:30 in the University Center

VI. Non-Formal EE Subcommittee Report

Members: **Betsy Parker** and Maria Pichette (TFT)

Discussion: **Scott Johnson** has decided not to pursue this initiative as a graduate thesis. WAEE Board is behind reestablishing the "Loose Group" and perhaps helping to host a Nature Center "summit" of sorts, but input and direction is needed. The following ideas were shared:

- 1) Conduct a needs assessment of non-formal EE sector. Is there a need to provide professional development for staff? Collaboration amongst the non-formal EE sector? Sources of funding? How to market your facility?
- 2) Networking opportunities have been offered in the past through WAEE, but nobody has attended them. What hinders people from taking advantage of these opportunities? What kind of networking (via internet, workshops, etc.) will be helpful to them?
- 3) WAEE Conference - possibly offering tracks for K-12 educators, higher education, and non-formal sectors. The time spent will be to gain knowledge of what EE resources are available and working together in groups at the conference to address similar concerns or issues being faced and brainstorm ways of overcoming them.

Grant Plans: Host a meeting for Nature Center Directors to explore an organizational format for non-formal EE sector that will help them to promote and manage nature centers in Wisconsin.

Action: Betsy will pursue the proposal for this through WAEE. We would like to add some more people to this committee. Does anyone know of a director of a nature center that might be interested in helping Betsy?

VII. Set Meeting Date in January - none at this time. We discussed if there was a need for the Education Committee to meet again. It was decided that the subcommittee chairs will communicate progress on their goals/projects to Kim via email and/or phone conversations. She in turn will share this information with the WEEB at their quarterly meeting on January 22 in Madison.

VIII. New Business

-We need to update the contact information for each person participating on a subcommittee.